



# San Diego City Attorney **MICHAEL J. AGUIRRE**

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTS CITY ATTORNEY'S REQUEST TO WITHHOLD APPROVAL OF THE CITY'S RETIREMENT BUDGET**

**San Diego, CA:** On an 8-1 vote, the Mayor and City Council supported City Attorney Michael Aguirre's request to withhold approval of the San Diego City Employees' Retirement System's (SDCERS) administrative budget for at least one week. That will allow City officials more time to evaluate any action taken by SDCERS regarding waiver of its attorney-client privilege. The SDCERS Board is expected to revisit the issue this Friday, June 17<sup>th</sup> at its regularly scheduled monthly meeting.

"We should not approve the Retirement Systems budget until its Pension Administrator and Board members conduct their affairs in a way that's consistent with the crisis that we are facing and with a rational approach to finding solutions," said City Attorney Aguirre. "At this point, the Pension Board has spent most of its time stonewalling the investigative efforts of the U.S. Attorney, the Securities and Exchange Commission, the District Attorney, the City Attorney and the City's Audit Committee by not waiving its attorney-client privilege which would release documents that may shed light on the genesis of the City's financial crisis."

Originally, in a memorandum dated today, the City Attorney requested the Council to withhold approval of the SDCER's \$28-million budget unless the Board agrees to: 1) waive the attorney-client privilege; 2) acknowledge that the City Attorney is the Chief Legal Advisor for the Board and the System; and 3) require SDCERS, during this time of crisis, to hold weekly meetings instead of monthly meetings because of the ongoing fiscal crisis and investigations surrounding the \$1.4 billion underfunded pension plan of City employees.

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